Family Drug Court Staff

Vicki Martin
Court Improvement Project Coordinator

Michael Gregory Deputy Juvenile Officer

Veronica Coleman Deputy Juvenile Officer

Molly Gopal Drug Court Coordinator

Sandra Thompson
Drug Court Secretary

In partnership with:

Public Defender's Office

New Beginnings Adolescent Treatment Center

Comtrea (Substance Abuse Counseling & Aftercare)

Mission Statement

The Family Drug Court seeks to ensure safety by focusing on healthy and sober parenting with a goal of family reunification or other permanency for the child.

Commissioner
James E. Sulllivan



If you need assistance or an accommodation in order to participate in these court services, please contact:

THE AMERICANS with
DISABILITY COORDINATOR,

JANICE KOCH

at
920 North Vandeventer Ave
St. Louis, Missouri 63108
or by telephone
VOICE (314) 552-2118
TDD (314) 531-6158

Family Drug Court



Family Court - Juvenile Division 920 North Vandeventer Ave. St. Louis, Missouri 63108

> Phone: (314) 552-2000 Fax: (314) 552-2260



Dedicated to Family Preservation

Introduction

Family Drug Court is a court-supervised drug treatment program for non-violent parents with a drug abuse problem.

Candidates for Family Drug Court have child(ren) placed in foster care and are specially chosen by the Family Drug Court Team based on certain guidelines. The Family Drug Court Team is under the direction of the Drug Court Commissioner. Members of the Family Drug Court Team include the Commissioner, Drug Court Administrator, Circuit Attorney, Division of Family Services case managers, Guardian ad litem, attorneys for the parents and Deputy Juvenile Officer and the Division of Family Services, and a treatment program representative.

Participation in the Family Drug Court is voluntary. The program length is determined by each participant's individual progress, but is at least eleven (11) months.

Program Requirements

1. Drug Testing

Program participants are drug tested throughout the entire program at least once per week and often more. Testing is done on a random basis and may be required any day of the week.

2. Court Appearances

Program participants are required to appear in court on a regular basis, initially once a week. At each appearance, the Commissioner will be given a report prepared by the case manager about the participant's progress.

3. Fees

There is a \$100.00 Drug Court fee that participants must pay in order to graduate.

4. Support of Your Child

Participants will be asked to provide financial support for his/her child(ren) in foster care according to his/her ability to pay.

5. Case Manger

Every participant is assigned a case manager from the Division of Family Services

6. Treatment

Every Family Drug Court participant is assessed. Then the treatment team develops a treatment plan.

7. Self-Help

Attendance at 12-step meetings (Narcotics Anonymous, Marijuana Anonymous and/or Alcoholics Anonymous) is required.

8. Visitation with Child(ren)

Participants are required to see his/her child(ren) as ordered by the Court.

Other Requirements

Family Drug Court participants are also required to comply with the "General Drug Court Rules" required to comply with the "General Drug Court Rules".

Consequences of Behavior

Incentives

- 1. Credits toward the \$100.00 Drug Court Fee
- 2. Being called first on the docket
- 3. Participant goes to the next path
- 4. Awarded privileges like travel out of town
- 5. Rewards such as movie tickets, grocery vouchers, etc.
- 6. Applause and praise in the Courtroom
- 7. Reduction in required court appearances

Sanctions

When a participant fails to comply with the Family Drug Court program, the Commissioner may, at her discretion, order one or more sanctions.

Sanctions may include Community Service, incarceration, removing the participant's child (ren) from his/her custody, ordering the participant into treatment (in-patient and/or outpatient) and restricting the participants contact with his/her child(ren).

Graduation

The Family Drug Court Team must agree that the participant has met all of the requirements and that he/she has successfully integrated the necessary information to support long-term recovery in order to graduate from Family Drug Court.